

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 00305 211610Z

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 NSC-06 SS-07 AID-01 /024 W

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R 211537Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2580

INFO USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 0305

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (WOLFF, LESTER L.)

SUBJECT: CODEL WOLFF'S VISIT TO COSTA RICA

USIA FOR ILA

1. CODEL WOLFF COMPLETED SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO SAN JOSE JANUARY 11-13. FOLLOWING MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR, DCM AND SAIC, CODEL CALLED ON PRESIDENT ODUBER AND FONMIN FACIO JOINTLY, ON ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT CARRO, AND ON MINISTER OF PUBLIC SECURITY CHARPENTIER. IN ADDITION, CONGRESSMAN GILMAN SAW MINISTER OF HEALTH WEINSTOCK PRIVATELY, AND ATTENDED MEETING OF RESIDENT AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. ENTIRE CODEL ATTENDED INFORMAL GATHERING WITH SELECTED U.S. MISSION MEMBERS AND WIVES AT RESIDENCE.

2. IN THEIR OFFICIAL CALLS, CONGRESSMEN WOLFF AND GILMAN EMPHASIZED SERIOUSNESS OF NARCOTICS PROBLEM IN U.S. AND REQUESTED COSTA RICA'S COOPERATION. PRESIDENT ODUBER AND OTHER GOCR OFFICIALS ASSURED THEM OF SUCH SUPPORT. GENERAL FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES AND INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION WERE ALSO DISCUSSED. THESE CALLS ARE REPORTED IN DETAIL IN SEPTELS EXCEPT FOR WEINSTOCK PRIVATE MEETING.

3. PRESS COVERAGE ON VISIT WAS LOW-KEY AND FACTUAL. LA NACION HEADLINED GOCR COMMITMENT TO COOPERATE IN WAR ON DRUGS.

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PAGE 02 SAN JO 00305 211610Z

EXCELSIOR ECHOED CODEL'S WARNING THAT CRACKDOWN IN

MEXICO MAY STIMULATE TRAFFICKERS TO GROW POPPIES IN
COSTA RICA. CLIPPINGS AND PHOTOGRAPHS ARE BEING POUCHED
TO DEPARTMENT FOR CODEL. LA NACION JANUARY 21 FEATURED
CONGRESSMEN'S STATEMENTS IN
U.S. ON DRUG PROBLEMS HERE. THIS WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY.

4. CODEL EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH RESULTS OF VISIT
AND ARRANGMENTS.
TODMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SANJO00305
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760023-0862
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760137/aaaabgsh.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 JUL 2004 by coburnhl>; APPROVED <25 OCT 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL WOLFF'S VISIT TO COSTA RICA USIA FOR ILA
TAGS: OREP, (WOLFF, LESTER L)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006